

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the Claims: Please amend claims 24 and 28 as follows. The following listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1-20 (canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface.

22. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

23. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said antibody is A10A.

24. (Currently amended) A method for the detection of an invasive fungal infection ~~diagnosis of a fungal infection~~ in a human patient comprising:

(a) assaying mucosal secretions or urine of the patient with suspected invasive infection with at least one antibody reactive with a fungal ~~Candida~~ $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – epitope and/or a fungal $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope in free form or available in cell wall fragments of fungi ~~*C. albicans* or *C. neoformans*~~, or on the cell surface of fungi ~~*C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*~~, wherein the fungal infection is Candida vaginitis or mucocutane candidiasis ~~and~~

(b) evaluating the levels of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans and/or $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ glucans in the secretions or urine.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 21.

28. (Currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of fungi ~~diagnosing fungal infections~~ in a human patient suspected of having an invasive infection, comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample from the patient using a monoclonal antibody reactive with a Candida ~~Candida~~ $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope in free form, or available in cell wall fragments of Candida ~~C. albicans or C. neoformans, or on the cell surface of C. albicans, C. parapsilosis, C. krusei, C. glabrata and/or C. neoformans, wherein the presence of the $\beta(1-3)$ glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient, wherein the fungal infection is Candida vaginitis or mucocutane candidiasis.~~

29. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein said antibody is A10A.

30-33 (Canceled)

34. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22.

35. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23.

36. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29.

37-39. (Canceled)